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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/017,473
	Filing Date	December 14, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Robert M. Wuertz et al.
	Art Unit	3761
	Examiner Name	Paul Royal
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	3191J-000010

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form  <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply  <input type="checkbox"/> After Final  <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address  <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund  <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC)  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):  <b>Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance and return postcard.</b>		
<table border="1"><tr><td>Remarks</td><td>The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</td></tr></table>			Remarks	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name Joseph M. Lafata	Reg. No. 37,166
Signature			
Date	Sept 2, 2004		

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Joseph M. Lafata	Express Mail Label No.	EV 531 989 827 US (9/2/2004)
Signature		Date	Sept 2, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/017,473  
Filing Date: December 14, 2001  
Applicant: Robert M. Wuertz et al.  
Group Art Unit: 3761  
Examiner: Paul Royal  
Title: DRIVE-BY-WIRE LAWNMOWER  
Attorney Docket: 3191J-000010

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Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated May 31, 2004, Applicant makes the following observations.

Applicant respectfully acknowledges the Examiner allowing this application. With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, however, Applicant respectfully submits that the elements that the Examiner asserts for the basis for allowing this application too narrowly define the invention. In fact, Applicant respectfully submits that the elements relied upon by the Examiner, and other elements found in the claims, could be characterized more broadly, and in different combinations and sub-combination and still present patentable subject matter. Further, Applicant's invention

differs from the prior art of record by features other than the limitations cited by the examiner.

If the Examiner would like to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Sept 2, 2004

By:   
Joseph M. Lafata, Reg. No. 37,166

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